



# LARC



Volume 54, Number 8

AUGUST 2014

## Presidents Message – August LARC

By Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD—AARA President

Well, Field Day is over and seems to have been a success. All who participated seemed to enjoy the site and the radio QSO's we managed to make. We had an additional show with the mamma killdeer bird sitting on her eggs in the middle of the road at the site. One of the eggs hatched the day after the event and we have pictures of the bird and her baby running through the field. (I suppose the remaining eggs hatched in the following days). My daughter, Susan, told us that she saw both birds running around the yard. We went through the statistics at the last AARA meeting and looked at the antenna setups using free modeling software – MANNA-GAL which can be downloaded and run on most computers: If anyone would like the presentation made at the meeting, send me an email.

<http://hamsoft.ca/pages/mmana-gal.php>

As most of you know, the days before Field Day were very wet days, and going to Danny Daigle's house to see about AMOS and the antenna trailer, we found both the pasture and the yard full of water and soft soil, so we were not able to move the antenna nor AMOS. However, we did put in a new battery in AMOS and it started on the second crank. We also removed the failed electric winch and put the original manual winch in its place. After returning the radios and cables, the systems are ready to be used again. We did get cables and some critical components to set up the radios.

Saturday morning we arrived at Miguel Morrogh's property and began the setup. With the help of many hands, we got our four antennas up in record time. Thanks to all who helped. We logged 942 stations, just shy of the 950 we logged last year. That is some accomplishment since we had a two hour window where none of the radios were in operation. We were blessed to have Tom Dischler W5OHJ with us at field day after his second trip to the hospital. Radio operators who logged in to the radios were: Jess Gillion (KF5LUL), Mark Saltzman (W5GTI), Abbi Wilson (KF5BEW), James Williams (KF5RBW), Danny Daigle (KD5JSM), Tom Dischler W5OHJ, Nick Romero (KE5MWX), Ric Wallace (KF5KEL), Galen Wilson (KF5BET), Kendra Wilson (KF5FYS), Larry LeBlanc (KE5KJD), and Derek Meche (KF5VZW). Others may have made contacts without changing the logging software operator and so are not listed here.

This Field Day operation showed us that ham radio can be fun and effective without expensive towers and beams and one can still make significant contacts with just wire antennas and simple verticals. To all the operators who gave of their time and loss of sleep, thank you.

(continued on page 4 column 1)

## Editor's Message

By Herman Campbell KN5GRK

Well it looks like another month has slipped by and we're now into August. Things were kind of slow during July here in our club probably because a lot of our key persons were on vacation. Our treasurer Archie W5AG spent the month in Kentucky, Larry KE5KJD and Sandy KE5KJF spent some time in Canada, Galen KF5BET, Kendra KF5FYS, and Abbi KF5BEW were in Canada and Oregon (by the way, they called the Youth Net from Oregon via EchoLink on the 146.820 on July 31). I understand Nick K5QXJ has been in California, plus others have been doing a lot of traveling also. Maybe when school starts in vacation time is over, we will probably get back to normality. hi hi

If you received the August QST, you probably read the fine article by Glen Thibodeau KF5FNP on his "Tape Measure Vertical Antenna" on pages 33, 34, and 35. A very nice submission indeed and Glen should be commended on this fine article.

Another thing I would like to mention is that Samuel "Sam" KG5AYI has completed this Technician Contest Log by making 26 contacts for each letter of the alphabet (last letter of their suffix), and will be getting his nice certificate. He is the second person to do so, congratulations go out to Samuel for his hard work and diligence.

Hope to see you at the General AARA Meeting.

## AARA GENERAL MEETING

Thursday, August 7, 2014 @ 7:00 PM at the Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat Street, Scott, Louisiana.

VE Testing @ 6:00 PM



**DATES TO REMEMBER****GENERAL MEETING**

August 7, 2014 @ 7:00 PM

Red Cross Building

101 N. Pat Street, Scott, LA.

VE Testing @ 6:00 PM

**SARA Shreveport Hamfest**

Saturday August 9, 2014

(see page 4)

**Local 2-Meter Nets****Sunday**Opelousas Area ARA Net 7:00 PM  
147.150 PL 103.5 Carencro, LA**Monday**AARA Monday Night Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA**Tuesday**Acadiana ARES Net 7:00 PM  
145.370 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA**Wednesday**Bodie's Memorial DX Net  
145.410 New Iberia, LA**Thursday**Youth Net 7:00 PM  
146.820 - PL 103.5 Lafayette, LA**AARA OFFICERS 2014 - 2015****President** - Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD  
LarryJamesLeBlanc@centurylink.net**Vice Pres.** - Jess Gillion - KF5LUL**Secretary** - Sandy Leblanc - KE5KJF**Treasurer** - Archie Hill - W5AG**BOARD MEMBERS**

Paula Romero - KF5CNS

Glen Thibodeaux - KF5FNP

James Williams - KF5RBW

Kendra Wilson - KF5FYS

**QSL MANAGER**

Roland Guidry - NA5Q

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The **LARC** is published monthly by  
the:**Acadiana Amateur Radio  
Association**

P. O. Box 51174

Lafayette, Louisiana 70505-1174

Regular meetings 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday  
of each month at 7:00 p.m. at the  
American Red Cross Building, 101  
North Pat Street, Scott, LA**JULY AARA CLUB MEETING MINUTES**

July 3, 2014

**CLUB MEETING:**

- The AARA meeting was called to order by President Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD.
- Herman Campbell led the prayer and we all prayed for members who are traveling.
- All said the Pledge of Allegiance.
- We welcomed two new members Paul McCasland N5KNY and James Romero KG5CNU.
- Members talked about interesting contacts during the month.
- Greg Dolan reported that we had no one testing this month.

**Minutes:** The June minutes were submitted by Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF, Secretary, and they were posted in the July LARC. On motion by Ric Wallace KF5KEL, seconded by Danny Daigle KD5JSM the minutes were accepted as published.

**Treasurer's Report:** Archie Hill W5AG was absent so Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD gave an abbreviated Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer's Report was approved as presented. The Financial Report is not published in the LARC; any member wanting a copy can contact Archie W5AG.

Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD suggested that since we did not use AMOS for Field Day that we transfer \$225.00 from AMOS operations to putting the wood flooring on the antenna trailer. On motion by Fred Marshal W5MLE, seconded by Nick Romero KE5MWX (with one negative vote Greg Dolan K5LFT) it was approved to put the money on the flooring for the antenna trailer.

**Field Day:** We had 45 in attendance, this included 25 members. We made 942 contacts operating as 2A classification. This year our event was for fun and fellowship. It was a big success. Thanks to the Morrogh family for their hospitality. Tom Dischler W5OHJ complimented Chairman Larry LeBlanc for organizing the Field Day.

Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD reported that the donated electric winch for lifting the antenna did not work. He will take it apart and see if parts can be ordered to fix the winch.

Tom Dischler W5OHJ said that he would speak to his insurance people to see if we can get a reduced rate for insurance on AMOS.

On motion by Ric Wallace KF5KEL, seconded by Cathy Daigle KD5TJZ, it was unanimous to wait until the August meeting to vote on whether to continue to use AMOS.

Next year we will operate as 4A and invite Boy Scouts, fire departments, and politicians.

**147.040 Repeater:** The 04 repeater is down and being sent for repairs.

**Auction:** Nick Romero KE5MWX bought the "cantenna", dummy load and James Romero KG5CNU bought the mag mount 2 meter antenna that was donated by Virgie Aubin N5JXV.

On motion by Galen Wilson KF5BET, seconded by Danny Daigle KD5JSM, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,  
Sandy LeBlanc KE5KJF  
AARA Secretary 2014-2015

**Delta Division ARES Emergency Net**

On Saturday and Sunday, July 26 and 27, a Delta Division ARES Emergency Net was held to discuss emergency net protocol for NCS operators on 7243 KHz. I did manage to check in on most days and on Sunday Glen KF5FNP and Mark W5GTI went down to the Lafayette EOC to check out the equipment and check into the net.

They reported the noise level was considerably high which made communications somewhat tough to check into the net. We appreciate them for their taking time out to be there.

## Saturday Antenna Party – Danny Daigle KD5JSM

By Larry LeBlanc KE5KJD

I decided to go to the antenna party at Danny Daigle's KD5JSM, house, partly to help and partly to return some equipment and cables to AMOS from our Field Day activity. On the way, Herman, KN5GRK, suggested that someone take pictures to include in the LARC. I had forgotten my camera, but at the last minute remembered that my new phone has camera capability. I arrived promptly at 8:00 only to find that Mel Simon, WD5CAE, and A. J. Degeyter, KF5THS, were there ahead of me. We waited a few minutes and decided to "size up the elephant". Danny had said that his 80 meter antenna was not working, his 2 meter had high SWR, and the hazer on his tri-band antenna was stuck and would not lower. Upon investigation, the SWR on the 2 meter checked out OK and the 80 meter resonance was around 3.2 MHz. Danny went to investigate and found out that half of the antenna was on the ground. It seems that the horse has pulled down the tie rope from the fence. Upon reconnecting the antenna leg, the SWR was about 3.85 MHz. (We had two MFJ analyzers and the portable graphing unit, so no problem reading and verifying the values.). The problems half solved, we broke for a little "coffee break" in the cool living room, courtesy of Kathy Daigle, KD5TJZ.

After waiting a while for a younger crew member to show up, Danny loaded up his climbing gear and proceeded up the tower. Mel and A. J. did the ground crew honors and I watched and took the pictures. Things were going well and Danny loosened the problem latch on the hazer. He then had to climb over the hazer to turn the antenna so it would clear the tower. The tower swayed and I was hoping Danny was not as fearful as I was watching him. Danny came down and had to retreat to a cool spot and drink water because of the heat and stress. (See him recuperating in the living room). Glen Thibodeaux, KF5FNP, arrived and helped orient the antenna for lowering. Mel, AJ, Glen, and I went out to lower the antenna and see if we could connect a cable to check the SWR. The antenna is now lowered and ready for the SWR check and we decided to save that for another day.



Ground crew, A. J. KF5THS at the controls and Mel WD5CAE (supervising).



Glen Thibodeaux, KF5FNP and A. J., KF5THS in heavy discussion.



Danny Daigle, KD5JSM in the restoration phase of the project.

Danny Daigle, KD5JSM in climbing gear.  
I much rather hug a tree!

(Presidents Message continued from Page 1)

The antennas used were:

1. Wilson trap vertical, located on a chicken wire ground plane on loan from Larry, KE5KJD.
2. MFJ 40/20 OCFD wire antenna on loan from Herman, KN5GRK.
3. NVIS 80/40 wire antenna system on loan from Mark, W5GTI
4. A "Hot Tamale" slopper brought by Danny, KD5JSM

For the most part, the antennas worked well and were more or less trouble free. Here is a list of "lessons learned" from this Field Day.

1. We should have placed the antennas further apart (AGC overload).
2. Place antennas with orientations in the null of other antennas if possible.
3. Plan ahead for ALL antennas. Class 2A needs 3 antennas, class 3A will need 4.
4. Always use band pass filters on each station if possible. We have 3 – 40M, 20M, 15M
5. Plan to have 80 M antenna to pick up new contacts when possible.
6. May need to watch long range weather forecast and move beam to the site in advance.
7. NVIS is a good thing to have, especially for local states – LA, TX, MS, AR, FL
8. Vertical is useful for the longer range transmit capability.
9. Keep in mind that a beam has a great advantage on "pile ups" and in QRM to pick out the station you want to contact on receive.

After Field Day, I needed to restore my antennas and cabling, which I had dismantled to carry to Field Day. One was the ZS6BKW dipole, with a 27K resistor in the middle to bleed off static charge. The antenna was disconnected and I climbed up an insulated ladder to reconnect it. I felt perfectly safe until I reached up to the ladder line and ZZAPP!! I got a strong shock. The static charge on the antenna was transferred to me! The 27K resistor used to bleed off static charge only works if there is a path to ground for discharge. The moral to this story is – be careful around antennas at all times, even when you think it is perfectly safe.



This is a photo of the tree at Miguel's house where we hung the OCFD antenna. A week after Field Day, it was hit by lightning. Note the scorched bark on the tree where lightning came down the trunk. Did we weaken the tree with all the RF we generated making all those contacts during Field Day - who knows? Just glad it did not happen then.

On Saturday July 12, I attended the antenna party at Danny's Daigle's QTH (see article in this issue) and had a good time with the fellows. Afterward, Glen Thibodeaux invited me over to his home to demonstrate his "Tape Measure Vertical" concept. It was instructive to see how easy it was to set up and tune. Glen has a complete description and construction

details in the August issue of QST pages 33, 34, & 35. Good work Glen!



## The SHREVEPORT HAMFEST IS BACK

Sponsored by:  
Shreveport Amateur Radio Association

**Date:** SATURDAY AUGUST 9, 2014 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

**Location:** Red Cross Building  
805 Brook Hollow Drive, Shreveport, LA 71105

**Admission:** \$5:00  
**Flea Market Tables:** \$10.00  
**Door Prize Tickets:** \$5.00 each - 6 for \$20.00

**For Forum Listing** - See website.  
**GRAND PRIZES**

1st - ICOM IC-7410 or \$1,000.00  
2nd - ICOM IC-2820H or \$250.00  
3rd - ICOM IC-V80HD or \$50.00

Vender and Flea Market Entree: 3:00 - 7:00 PM August 8th and 7:00 AM August 9th

### PLEASE RESERVE YOUR FLEA MARKET TABLES EARLY

Due to limited space we only have 44 Flea Market Tables.

We request you limit your requirement to a maximum of 2 tables. If you need more than 2 tables please describe your use for committee approval. We will send you an e-mail invoice. Upon receipt of your payment we will e-mail you your table assignment. (See Floor Plan Layout) We thank you in advance for accommodating our small venue on our first year back.

Please e-mail your table request to [hamfest@k5sar.com](mailto:hamfest@k5sar.com) .

For more information:  
e-mail: [hamfest@k5sar.com](mailto:hamfest@k5sar.com)  
Click for MAP <http://goo.gl/maps/T4a1D>  
Website:  
<http://www.k5sar.com>

**JULY 2014 ACADIANA AREA 2 METER NET REPORTS**

NET	SESSIONS:	TOTAL CHECK-INS:	TOTAL TRAFFIC:	TOTAL TIME: Minutes	Net Manager
OAARC Net - Opelousas Area Amateur Radio Club	4	28	Ø	54	N5LRZ Ray
AARA Monday Night Net	4	70	Ø	140	W5GTI Mark
Acadiana ARES Net	5	24	3	50	N5LRZ Ray
Bodie's Memorial DX Net	5	27	Ø	110	N5LRZ Ray
Youth Thursday Night Net	4	26	Ø	61	KF5BEW Abbi KF5FYS Kendra

A life without love is like a year without summer. ~Swedish Proverb

**AARA Monday Night 2 Meter Net Rotation**

Mark W5GTI, the net control station, for the AARA Monday Night Net had suggested that the net be rotated between three different area repeaters. Here is the August 2014 schedule.

DATE:	TIME:	REPEATER:	PL TONE:
August 4	7:00 PM	146.820	103.5
August 11	7:00 PM	145.370	103.5
August 18	7:00 PM	147.040	103.5
August 25	7:00 PM	146.520	SIMPLEX

When using the SkyWarn 145.370 repeater, be sure to use the receiver PL Tone for your area as follows:

NW Quadrant 114.8 - NE Quadrant 127.3 - SW Quadrant 141.3 - SE Quadrant 94.8.

The August 2014 schedule can be downloaded and printed in Adobe Acrobat .PDF from the club website at:

[http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/files/monday net.pdf](http://www.w5ddl.org/clubsite/files/monday%20net.pdf)

**Notice:** On the January 13<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Monday Night Net, Mark made a offer that goes like this:

The top 10 check-ins on the Monday Night AAARA Net during 2014 will get their call/name entered into a drawing and winner will receive a Chinese import dual band handi-talkie paid for by Mark W5GTI. **HOW ABOUT THAT?** So be sure to check into the net and thanks to Mark in keeping the net active.

**UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS**

8/5	ROY	NG5X
8/9	GLEN	KF5FNP
8/12	ROBERT	KE5WZK
8/22	PHOEBE	KC5VRN
8/23	PAULA	KF5CNS
8/24	ESTHER	N5YOP
8/31	RODERICK	KG5BHW
9/6	STEVE	KF5VH
9/8	BUD	N5AN

Some members failed to put their birthdays on their applications for renewal / membership causing some names to be missing from the list.

**LIGHTHOUSE / LIGHTSHIP WEEKEND**

August 16 & 17, 2014

The Bayouland Emergency Amateur Radio Service (BEARS) will be operating from the SW Reef Lighthouse (Berwick) on Saturday 10:00 AM to 8:00 PM and Sunday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM. There are no specified times, modes, or frequencies (40 & 20 meters) for this event using W5BMC call. It is not a contest; it is to make contacts and publicize the lighthouse and the Town of Berwick.

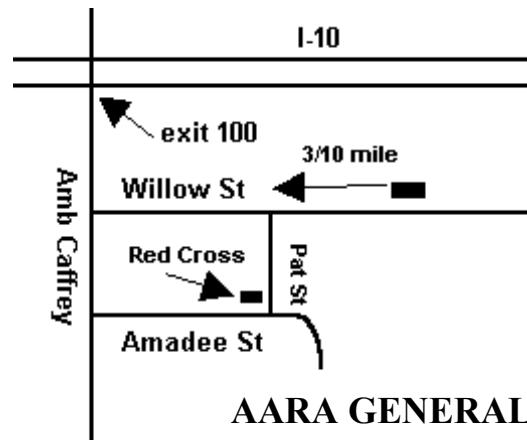
Check out "The Town of Berwick" July 2014 newsletter for more info:  
<http://townofberwick.org>



Acadiana Amateur Radio Assoc., Inc.  
P. O. Box 51174  
Lafayette, LA 70505-1174



Website: <http://www.w5ddl.org>



## AARA GENERAL MEETING Thursday August 7, 2014 - 7:00 PM

VE Testing Tonight @ 6:00 PM

Red Cross Building, 101 N. Pat St., Scott, LA  
Lunch Bunch - Each Wednesday 10:45 AM – 2:00 PM

Golden Corral - Amb. Caffery - Lafayette, LA  
Check 146.820 PL 103.5 - repeater for info.



COMPLIMENTARY  
ISSUE

## PAUL'S PORK ROAST

By Paul Scallan, Sr.— K5VSH

1 Boneless CENTER CUT PORK LOIN ROAST      1 Seasonings (see below)

### Seasoning:

I use Tony Chaceries Creole Seasoning or mix one part of black/white/red pepper with a 1/2 part of salt and a 1/2 part of garlic powder. Make about three (3) tablespoons full. Whole Cloves of Garlic (about 8)

### Method:

Cut off excess fat from roast and retain. Cut fat in 1" squares.

Poke holes in fat side of roast, using a slim knife. 2 holes down the roast about 4 times.

Run your finger into the holes to enlarge.

Put a teaspoon or so of seasoning in each hole, then cram in a clove of garlic into the hole, and cap with a bit of the reserved fat. Add the remaining seasonings to the outside of the roast.

Flour the entire roast and brown on all sides in 1/2" of oil. Best to use a cast iron pot. Make a "tent" of foil to cover the roast and bake at 350° F for approximately 1-1/2 hours, turning once and adding a little water, every now and then.

### Gravy:

Depending on how big your roast is and how much your family likes gravy.

Use 2 to 3 chicken bouillon cubes

One can or package of Beef Gravy

Adjust your thickness with flour water.

## FCC Information Service

Toll Free (WATS) for Amateur Radio license inquiries about new/vanity call signs: 888-225-5322. This will connect you to the FCC National Call Center, handled by the FCC's Consumer Information Bureau. Amateurs having ULS problems or questions should contact the FCC's ULS Technical Support staff at: 202-414-1250 or:

[ulscomm@fcc.gov](mailto:ulscomm@fcc.gov).

FCC Website:

<http://wireless.fcc.gov/uls/>

New call sign information can also be obtained from the ARRL/VEC at 860-594-3000.

<http://www.arrl.org/arrlvec>

The mailing address to the FCC is:

Federal Communications Commission, 1270 Fairfield Road, Gettysburg, PA 17325-7245